

REMARKS

Restriction/Election

Pursuant to the election/restriction requirement set by the Examiner, Applicants have herein elected with traverse Claims 1 – 3, 5 – 6, 8 – 12 and 18 – 21 and Figures 1 – 6, which are drawn to a thin-film magnetic head.

Applicants submit that Claims 1 – 3, 5 – 6, 8 – 12 and 18 – 21 and Figures 1 – 6 are directed to a single patentably distinct Species I and has accordingly elected the corresponding group of claims and figures, as required by the Examiner.

As stated by the Examiner and agreed by the Applicants, a relationship between the claims and the figures is shown below:

Species I: Figures 1 – 6; Claims 1 – 3, 5 – 6, 8 – 12 and 18 – 21.

Species II: Figure 7; Claim 4.

The withdrawn Claim 4 and Figure 7 of Species II are directed to a thin-film magnetic head whose upper magnetic core and lower magnetic pole layers have each a dual-layer structure.

Claim 19 has been amended to render it dependent on Claim 8 instead of Claim 18.


Conclusion

Therefore, in view of the above amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly requested.

If for any reason, however, the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,
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